

GOBA

Great Ouse Boating Association



news

Spring 2022



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**MEET YOUR GOBA COMMITTEE
AT THE AGM**



WATERFOWL SANCTUARY



**THE CHANGING FACE OF
THE GREAT OUSE**

BOATING NEWS

and dates for your diaries

Hemingford Regatta Meadow moorings – be aware of the following dates when the GOBA mooring will be closed:

The Hemingfords will be staging their Regatta again this year on **9th July**. This is an event for residents only. Permission for this event is part of the lease agreement we have with the landlord and requires closure of the mooring to GOBA members for that day, with limited traffic passing the mooring between races. Racing starts at 9.00am but in view of the number of childrens entries they tend to run qualifying heats on the Friday evening before.

Please make sure you vacate the moorings Friday 8th July 3pm latest.

Practice nights begin in early June (between 5.30pm and 9.30pm Monday to Fridays). **If you are passing through this area, please be patient and considerate to those taking part.**

We have also given special permission for the moorings to be closed on **4th June** for the Hemingfords Platinum Jubilee Pageant (for residents of the Hemingfords only). This will include a flotilla cruise with village boats, punts, paddle boarders etc. The pageant will be from 10am and for the rest of the day, as the event will continue well into the evening. The cruise past, at 6pm, should not limit passing traffic, just mooring.

We all hope you can comply, thank you.

Nobles Field – St Ives Rowing Club will be holding their annual Regatta on the weekend of **18th and 19th June**, and will be occupying our moorings. Please avoid the moorings during this weekend.

Reach Fair – will take place on the **Monday 2nd May**, with the IWA in attendance. You can find out more on their website (reachfair.org.uk).

Ely Aquafest is being planned for **3rd July 2022**. Keep an eye on their website for more information.

The Bedford River Festival - is due to take place on the **23rd and 24th July 2022**. As many of you are aware, this popular event is usually held biennially but was postponed last year due to Covid. Fingers crossed it will take place in 2022.

Many events and attractions take place over the weekend, and this usually includes a number of river activities, live music and performance stages, raft and dragon boat races together with a continental market and firework display.

Aquavista acquires Castle Marina – the midlands based marina operator has recently acquired Castle Marina. Aquavista already operate 18 marinas including Priory Marina and have now added 11 additional sites to their portfolio.

The Lazy Otter pub has closed – I'm sure many of you loved to stop off at the Lazy Otter, so we're sad to hear that this lovely riverside pub has closed its doors. We understand there is a petition to keep it open as a pub although there maybe plans afoot to convert it to a private dwelling (for which planning permission is needed). You

petition (actionstorm.org/petitions/the-lazy-otter-riverside-pub). GOBA are supporting this petition as we are keen that all boaters have the option of stopping at this local hostelry (especially when we understand pubs like the Jeryns Arms are unlikely to re-open any time soon).

Color Gas issues – Blue Butane 4.5kg cylinders – it seems there is still a supply chain issue with Color Gas, which was due to the pandemic (an increase in demand and labour shortages). Hopefully this will resolve itself soon. A small number of 4.5kg butane gas bottles have been recalled – to identify the faulty bottles, carefully examine the Tare Disc – if the code is 33 or 34 this is one that has been recalled. Further information is available online (color.co.uk/recall).

The Great Ouse Valley Trust – promotes the conservation, restoration and enjoyment of the landscape, wildlife and heritage of the Great Ouse Valley and you can visit their website or follow their activities on facebook. They have recently sent out a communication about a planning proposal for a Solar Panel Farm west of Offord Cluny. The site apparently identified is about 26 hectares, and Buckden Parish Council have advised that their Neighbourhood Plan makes it clear that there should be no development there, as they wish the Great Ouse Valley to be protected from such developments. If you would like to find out further information about the consultation, check out greatousevalleytrust.org.uk who are interested in hearing your views.

EA BBQ stands - If you're out and about BBQing, and are on a EA mooring, please make an effort to use the EA new BBQ stands (and not the grass). Thanks very much to the GOBA member who sent in this picture.



And elsewhere:

Crick Boat Show will take place over the bank holiday weekend from **Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June**. For tickets and more information please visit crickboatshow.com.

Braunston Rally and Canal Festival is planned for the **25th to 26th June**.